

straight definition, which, by the way, the Committee on Rules did correctly, but which the Committee on the Judiciary did not, does the gentleman know whether that is being corrected?

□ 2045

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I tell the gentleman from Maryland that the chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary takes a position that everything was done correctly and in order and is looking forward to a debate on the floor on the resolution late Tuesday afternoon.

Mr. HOYER. Late Tuesday afternoon?

Mr. CANTOR. Yes, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, does the gentleman know how late that will be? Of course, votes will not be scheduled until 6:30, so most Members will not be back.

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I think we can work that out, but I believe around 5 or 5:30 the debate will take place.

Mr. HOYER. I appreciate that information, Mr. Speaker. I will certainly notify the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT), one of the sponsors; the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER), another one of the sponsors; and the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE), another one of the sponsors. I regret that we need to go ahead with the issue of the privileges of the House. I will tell the gentleman I do not know that I have seen an amendment as mischaracterized as this amendment was, and I was hopeful that we could simply resolve it. But if that cannot be done, then we will have to have it subject to debate.

I thank the gentleman for his information.

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. HOYER. I yield to the gentleman from Virginia.

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding to me. I will tell the gentleman, again, that the chairman feels that all was in order and we will debate the question on the floor Tuesday afternoon.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for that information.

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE HONORABLE ROB PORTMAN

(Mr. CANTOR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and a little bit of sorrow that I rise this evening to recognize the fact that this may very well be one of the last nights for one of our very esteemed colleagues to serve on the floor of this great House.

I have gotten to know the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) over the last several years. I have had the privilege of serving with him on the Committee on Ways and Means and at the Repub-

lican leadership table. I do not believe that there is a finer or more dedicated public servant to serve in this House. There is no question that he has the respect of all of our colleagues on both sides of the aisle for his seriousness of purpose, for his understanding of the issues, and mastery of the legislative process. It will truly be a loss for us in the House, but we are also fortunate as Americans that the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) will go on to serve this great country and serve our President hopefully in the very near future.

So it is with a bittersweet good-bye that I do say and congratulate the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN).

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. CANTOR. I yield to the gentleman from Michigan.

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding to me.

I would just like to add my voice, and I know the Chamber is not as full as it should be for this occasion, but I have served in public office for approximately 30 years. I am relatively quiet, but I do a lot of observation. And I have noticed over the years that there are some people who are simply very outstanding by making a lot of noise but not doing much.

The people I prefer, whom I have observed also, are those who do a great deal but do not make a lot of noise about it. And the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) is in the latter category. I have watched him over the years I have been here. An outstanding person, very hard worker, always behind the scenes, not asking for credit or bragging about what he has done. This is what makes the government work. This is what made the House work. And I want to express my appreciation to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) and wish him the best of everything in his new position. I am sure he will do equally well in that position and will continue to serve this country well.

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. FOLEY), another fellow member of the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding to me.

I too want to commend the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN), particularly his family for willingly sacrificing him both to the service in this Congress as well as the endeavor he is about to undertake.

The President chose wisely. The gentleman from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) has been one of the most intellectually honest, sincere members of our committee. He has tackled the tough issues. He has faced them head on. He comes from a very important State. He understands the dynamics of trade. It is good to have a friend at Trade. I am particularly delighted.

But I honestly and sincerely wish him God's blessing as he proceeds to help our Nation, strengthen our economy, deal with our allies, create new

opportunities. We are blessed with the fact that when trade is done mutually and satisfactorily, we open up democracies. We change patterns of behavior. We bring down the walls of communism by opening the hearts, the minds, and the wallets of the oppressed.

So his job is significant, it is important, and he is not only suitable to the task, but he is genuinely one of the best representatives our President could have chosen. And I wish him God speed.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY COMMITTEE ON RULES REGARDING AMEND- MENTS TO H.R. 1185, FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE REFORM ACT OF 2005

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, the Committee on Rules may meet the week of May 2 to grant a rule which could limit the amendment process for floor consideration of H.R. 1185, the Federal Deposit Insurance Reform Act of 2005.

Any Member wishing to offer an amendment should submit 55 copies of the amendment and one copy of a brief explanation of the amendment to the Committee on Rules in room H-312 of the Capitol by noon on Tuesday, May 3, 2005. Members should draft their amendments to the bill as reported by the Committee on Financial Services on April 27, 2005. Members are advised that the report of the Committee on Financial Services is expected to be filed tomorrow, Friday, April 29. And Members are also advised that the text of the reported bill should be available for their review on the Web sites of the Committee on Financial Services and the Committee on Rules by Friday, April 29, 2005.

Members should use the Office of Legislative Counsel to ensure that their amendments are drafted in the most appropriate format and should check with the Office of the Parliamentarian to be certain their amendments comply with the rules of the House.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY COMMITTEE ON RULES REGARDING AMEND- MENTS TO H.R. 366, VOCATIONAL AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION FOR THE FUTURE ACT

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, the Committee on Rules may meet the week of May 2 to grant a rule which could limit the amendment process for floor consideration of H.R. 366, the Vocational and Technical Education for the Future Act. The Committee on Education and the Workforce ordered the bill reported on May 9 and filed its report with the House on March 17.

Any Member wishing to offer an amendment should submit 55 copies of the amendment and one copy of a brief explanation of the amendment to the Committee on Rules in room H-312 of the Capitol by noon on Tuesday, May 3.